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### BOOK REVIEW

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES IN GENERAL PRACTICE. By Thomas Anwyl-Davies, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P. Price 7s. 6d. John Bale, Sons, and Danielsson, Ltd., London. 1935.

DR. ANWYL-DAVIES has written in this pocket monograph a book which should prove of considerable service. There are many patients suffering from syphilis or gonorrhoea who will not attend at the treatment centres, and who also are unable to afford the cost of treatment at expert hands. These must come under the care of the private general practitioner; and it is a matter of vital importance that such a practitioner be able to render to these patients treatment upon modern lines. A careful reading of this monograph should enable this to be done and should prevent the danger of inadequacy.

To steer a course midway between writing for the expert and for the general practitioner is rather difficult; and Dr. Anwyl-Davies has, in great measure, succeeded in this task.

The syphilologist might find grounds for disagreement with much that the author writes concerning the values of the various arsenical and bismuthic preparations used in the treatment of syphilis—to cite one example, the opinion expressed as to the relatively low value of the lipo-soluble bismuth compounds.

It is rather a pity that mention is not made of the best method of administering mercury, that is, in the form of Collosol Mercury Sulphide intravenously. The exhibition of iodine in the form of Collosol Iodine also fails to secure mention.

The syringe figured in Plate I., with its centrally situated nozzle, is certainly not of the best type to recommend for use to the general practitioner.

So far as the section on systems of treatment of syphilis is concerned, the methods advocated are sound and are based upon those in operation at the Whitechapel Clinic. Some little confusion might be caused by the use of the term "bi-weekly." By this, Dr. Anwyl-Davies means "twice weekly." As pointed out by Fowler, a word such as "bi-weekly" has no merits and two faults. It is an unsightly hybrid and is ambiguous. It may mean both "two-weekly" and "half-weekly." Ambiguity is a considerable curse and these *bi*-words should be allowed to die and the natural "fortnightly" and "twice-weekly" take their place.

The reviewer prefers the technique of prostatic massage according to Pelouze rather than that described in this monograph and figured in Plate V.

With regard to chancroid, it is rather remarkable to find so little stress laid upon the tremendous value of Dmelcos vaccine in the treatment of this condition.

This little book should serve its purpose excellently; and the general practitioner and the medical student will find it eminently

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practical. If he carries out the procedures laid down, he will be treating his patients along up-to-date lines and his results should be excellent.

The book is to be commended, and the only suggestions one is tempted to make is that in subsequent editions references to the literature might be deleted as they are of little or no interest to those for whom the work is intended, that the illustrations be photographic, that a more suitable type of intravenous syringe be shown and that the price of the book be reduced.

E. T. B.